



Docket No.: 1152-0319PUS1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Takao WATANABE

Application No.: 10/540,944

Confirmation No.:

Filed: June 29, 2005

Art Unit: N/A

For: THIN DESIGN DISPLAY APPARATUS AND
DISPLAY UNIT DETACHMENT METHOD

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL BASED ON
"SPECIAL EXAMINING PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN NEW APPLICATIONS"

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests that the above-captioned application be granted "special" status pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.102. The basis for this petition is the special examining procedure for certain new applications discussed in MPEP 708.02(VIII). The following paragraph headings correspond to the section headings in MPEP 708.02(VIII).

A) The fee required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) is provided herewith.

B) A second preliminary amendment is being filed on even date herewith. It is believed that the claims in this second preliminary amendment are all directed to a single invention.

C) A pre-examination search was made by the Japanese Patent Office acting as the International Searching Authority in International Application PCT/JP2003/017001. The search was carried out in International Classes G09F 9/00 and HO4N 5/64. A copy of the International

Search Report is provided herewith. The above-captioned application is the national stage of PCT/JP2003/017001. The claims in this U.S. application are of the same or similar scope as the claims in the International application.

D) Copies of the references cited in the International Search Report were submitted as part of an information disclosure statement filed on June 29, 2005. Four additional references are being filed in an IDS concurrently herewith. Copies of all references discussed below are therefore believed to be of record and additional copies are not being provided.

E) A detailed discussion of the references which points out with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. 1.111(b) and (c) how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references is provided below.

Document 1 (JP publication No. 2000-206901)

A flat-panel display 10 can be attached to a floor stand 13 by inserting a pair of edge portions of rod-shaped fittings 32B into the recess portions of floor stand 13 respectively in the downward direction and fastening display side universal mounting units 32 to floor stand 13. By providing such simple plug structure, flat-panel display 10 can be easily attached to and detached from floor stand 13. (See Figs. 10 and 11)

Document 2 (JP publication No. 5-324123)

A keyboard cover 1 including a display screen 4 is completely detached from a body 2. A connector provided on the lower part of cover 1 is engaged with a connector 14 provided on body 2 so as to use keyboard cover 1 in a stand state on body 2. Since display screen 4 can be turned to the opposite side, the display screen can be simultaneously observed by the operator and a customer and the like opposing to the operator. (See Fig. 1)

Document 3 (JP publication No. 2003-44166)

By inserting a projection 113 for assembly of a liquid crystal screen section 110 into a slot 123 for assembly of a rotation hinge 122 of a body section 120, liquid crystal screen section

110 is fastened to body section 120 and then an internal power source input I/F 114 and an internal image input I/F 115 are electrically connected to an internal power source output I/F 124 and an internal image output I/F 125 of body section 120, respectively. According to the above-configuration, liquid crystal screen section 110 becomes detachable. When liquid crystal screen section 110 is detached from body section 120, by inserting projection 113 for assembly of liquid crystal screen section 110 into a slot 133 for assembly of a stand 130, liquid crystal screen section 110 is able to be independent of body section 120. (See Fig. 2)

Document 4 (JP utility model publication No. 61-621)

When the both ends of a support frame 32 formed to a bracket shape are inserted into a pair of modified circle holes 26 of a display B, display B is supported by support frame 32 and is able to stand with a predetermined angle α between display B and support frame 32. When support frame 32 is inserted into a pair of circle holes 24 instead of modified circle holes 26, display B can be attached to a wall.

Document 5 (JP publication No. 11-3043)

A flat-surface display 1 is hung from a pole 4 which is suspended between fixing brackets 5 fixed to a wall 2, by engaging connections 7 provided on a rear side of display 1 and pole 4. Legs 28 which support flat-surface display 1 on wall 2 are provided in the lower parts of the connections 7. Each leg 28 is comprised of a base portion 28a having an internal thread hole and an external threaded portion 28b which is inserted and engaged into the hole. By turning external threaded portion 28b, the lower portion of flat-surface display 1 sways in the arrow direction as shown in Fig. 2. Therefore, it is possible to adjust the angle of depression or elevation of flat-surface display 1.

Document 6 (JP publication No. 8-125949)

Each speaker provided in the right and left sides of the display is formed into an arch shape. Therefore, it is possible to cushion an impact.

Document 7 (JP publication No. 9-6250)

Speakers 44 and 45 are built in both sides of a liquid crystal display panel 14.

Document 8 (JP publication No. 8-272310)

A panel block 10 and a receiving block 20 are connected by a connection section 30.

Panel block 10 is comprised of: a light drive circuit driving a liquid crystal panel and light sources; a panel circuit board mounting a control circuit for generating data and control signal for a liquid crystal driving circuit mounted on the liquid crystal panel; a speaker for outputting sound; and upper and under frames 15, 16 which enclose the above elements.

Receiving block 20 is comprised of: a power circuit for a receiving circuit, a video signal processing circuit and the whole liquid crystal display device; a battery holder; and upper and under frames 25, 26 which enclose the above elements.

Document 9 (JP publication No. 60-1924)

Document 9 discloses a box for a remote controller having an attachment portion for attaching to and detaching from a cabinet of equipment and a holder for holding the remote controller. (See figs. 2 and 3)

Document 10 (JP utility model publication No. 54-92718)

Document 10 discloses a remote controller holder in which a remote controller is pushed down to be engaged with the holder and is pushed down again to be released and projected from the holder.

Document 11 (JP publication No. 10-254581)

Document 11 discloses a mounting device of a flat display which is comprised of; a flat display (FD) supporting arm 2 fixed to a desk or the like and arranged to swivel freely within a horizontal plane; and a back plate 18 of a FD mounting plate 17 supported so as to be turned upward to the tip of FD supporting arm 2, wherein for FD mounting plate 17, a keyboard receiving member 26 is attached behind back plate 18 and a keyboard 14 may be mounted and stored between back plate 18 and keyboard receiving member 26. By mounting and storing the

keyboard behind the flat display when the keyboard is not used, the decrease of a free space on a desk top surface is prevented. (See Figs. 2 and 10)

Document 12 (JP publication No. 2000-241008)

Document 12 discloses a remote controller which shape is tapered from one end to the other end.

Document 13 (JP publication No. 9-127882)

Document 13 discloses a supporting device of a thin design display device. The thin design display device has at least one bag-like portion 30 which is opened on the lower part, on the rear surface of a box body 1, and may be attached to an L-shaped support projected in an upper direction from a wall by inserting the L-shaped support into bag-like portion 30. Therefore, the thin design display device not only can be used in an installed state but also can be used in a wall-mounted state.

Document 14 (JP publication No. 11-184395)

Document 14 discloses a constitution for fastening a display 50 to a stand portion 53. After mounting a bottom surface of a rear side frame box 52 of display 50 on an upper surface of a shaft anchoring portion 56 by inserting shafts 55 to holes 63 provided on rear side frame box 52, screws are inserted to recesses 58 provided on shafts 55 until the screws push shafts 55 to thereby fasten of display 50 to stand portion 53. According to the above-configuration, it is possible to remove display 50 from stand portion 53.

Document 15 (JP publication No. 2002-171461)

A battery 190 is mounted on a rear part 150 of a monitor 100, and monitor 100 contains a stand 170, a groove 161 is formed to the bottom of monitor 100 and charging terminals 165 are provided to a groove 161. In a base unit 200, charging terminals 215 are provided to support rails 212. In charging battery 190, stand 170 is housed in a stand housing groove 153 and monitor 100 is rested against a front 210 of the base unit 200. In this case, charging terminals 215 come in contact with charging terminals 165 to charge up battery 190.

Document 16 (JP publication No. 2002-311852)

A stand is constituted of a first base and a second base, and the first base is provided with a first supporting surface and a recessed part, and the second base has a second supporting surface. The second base is attached to the first base to be freely movable so as to be able to move in bi-directions between a first position and a second position. By the feature that the second base is made to be movable in the bi-directions, the joining surface on a desk is increased, while the total volume at the time of packaging the stand and a monitor becomes smaller.

Document 17 (JP publication No. 8-314386)

The purpose of the invention of document 17 is to provide a thin display device provided with a small-sized stand which supports a display supporting body so as to be able to adjust an elevation angle or a rotation angle of lateral direction of a screen and can be applied to plural thin shape display devices having different screen sizes.

In order to achieve the above purpose, an oscillating axis supporting part 2 is fixed at a rear surface of a display supporting body 1, and supports a oscillating axis 3 so as to be approximately parallel to the screen of the display device. A pair of oscillating axes 3 are arranged at a position where the center of gravity of the display supporting body 1 exists in the height direction. Display supporting body 1 is connected to an oscillating axis bearing part 6 so as to be able to oscillate by inserting a pair of oscillating axes 3 respectively into a pair of bearing holes 7 of oscillating axis bearing part 6. At this time, elastic friction members 8 are inserted into the position where the oscillating axis 3 is held between an oscillating axis supporting part 2 and oscillating axis bearing part 6 while oscillating axis 3 is inserted into bearing hole 7, and elastic friction members 8 are compressed in the thickness direction by oscillating axis supporting part 2 and oscillating axis bearing part 6 and is elastically deformed to act frictional force to oscillating axis supporting part 2.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE REFERENCES AND THE CLAIMED INVENTION

Claim 38

Documents 1-17 do not disclose or suggest at least the limitations: a fitting part connected to a display unit by a rotational rotation part or a thin type display unit supported by a stand/pillar structure by inserting the fitting part into an insert space or a fitting part that is removable by pulling out the fitting part from the stand/pillar structure.

Claims 39 and 41

Documents 1-17 do not disclose or suggest at least the claimed “anti removal device” and “removal prevention releasing device” in connection with the claimed “stand/pillar structure” as recited in claims 39 and 41.

Claim 40

Documents 1-17 neither disclose nor suggest at least the claimed “a front end of the removable fitting part with respect to an insertional direction is formed with an elastic member.”

Claim 42

Documents 1-17 neither disclose nor suggest at least the claimed “chargeable battery incorporated in the display unit is charged through the power supply unit when the display unit is supported by the stand/pillar structure”.

Claims 50 and 80

Documents 1-17 neither disclose nor suggest at least a “stand-cum-joint” as claimed.

Claim 90

Documents 1-17 neither disclose nor suggest the claimed “anti removal device” and the claimed steps of “pulling up the grip handle so as to cause a force to act in the direction in which the fitting part is separated from the stand/pillar structure,” and “applying a force on the anti

removal device, at the same time, in the same direction as the fitting part is inserted into the stand/pillar structure, so as to detach the fitting part of the display unit from the stand/pillar structure.”

Claim 91

Documents 1-17 do not show or suggest at least a fitting part pivotally mounted on a thin type display device or a removable stand structure having an insert space adapted to slidably, removably receive a fitting part as claimed.

Claim 99

Documents 1-17 do not show or suggest a method that the claimed method steps including the step of providing a thin type display unit having a fitting part pivotably mounted on the thin type display unit and pivoting the fitting part and configuring the device as claimed.

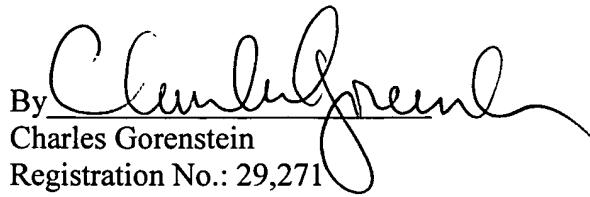
CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott Wakeman (Reg. No. 37,750) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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PETITION FEE Under 37 CFR 1.17(f), (g) & (h) TRANSMITTAL (Fees are subject to annual revision)		Application Number	10/540,944 ✓
		Filing Date	June 29, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Takao WATANABE
		Art Unit	N/A
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
		Attorney Docket Number	1152-0319PUS1

Enclosed is a petition filed under 37 CFR 1.102(d) that requires a processing fee (37 CFR 1.17(f), (g), or (h)). Payment of \$ 130.00 is enclosed.

This form should be included with the above-mentioned petition and faxed or mailed to the Office using the appropriate Mail Stop (e.g., Mail Stop Petition), if applicable. *For transmittal of processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17(i), see form PTO/SB/17i.*

Payment of Fees (small entity amounts are NOT available for the petition fees).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 :
 petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(f), (g) or (h) any deficiency of fees and credit of any overpayments
Enclose a duplicative copy of this form for fee processing.

Check in the amount of \$ 130.00 is enclosed.

Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 or equivalent enclosed). Do not provide credit card information on this form.

Petition Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(f): Fee \$400 Fee Code 1462

For petitions filed under:

- § 1.36(a) – for revocation of a power of attorney by fewer than all applicants.
- § 1.53(e) – to accord a filing date.
- § 1.57(a) – to accord a filing date.
- § 1.182 – for decision on a question not specifically provided for.
- § 1.183 – to suspend the rules.
- § 1.378(e) – for reconsideration of decision on petition refusing to accept delayed payment of maintenance fee in an expired patent.
- § 1.741(b) – to accord a filing date to an application under § 1.740 for extension of a patent term.

Petition Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(g): Fee \$200 Fee Code 1463

For petitions filed under:

- § 1.12 – for access to an assignment record.
- § 1.14 – for access to an application.
- § 1.47 – for filing by other than all the inventors or a person not the inventor.
- § 1.59 – for expungement of information.
- § 1.103(a) – to suspend action in an application.
- § 1.136(b) – for review of a request for extension of time when the provisions of section 1.136(a) are not available.
- § 1.295 – for review of refusal to publish a statutory invention registration.
- § 1.296 – to withdraw a request for publication of a statutory invention registration filed on or after the date the notice of intent to publish issued.
- § 1.377 – for review of decision refusing to accept and record payment of a maintenance fee filed prior to expiration of a patent.
- § 1.550(c) – for patent owner requests for extension of time in *ex parte* reexamination proceedings.
- § 1.956 – for patent owner requests for extension of time in *inter partes* reexamination proceedings.
- § 5.12 – for expedited handling of a foreign filing license.
- § 5.15 – for changing the scope of a license.
- § 5.25 – for retroactive license.

Petition Fees under 37 CFR 1.17(h): Fee \$130 Fee Code 1464

For petitions filed under

- or petitions filed under:
 - § 1.19(g) – to request documents in a form other than that provided in this part.
 - § 1.84 – for accepting color drawings or photographs.
 - § 1.91 – for entry of a model or exhibit.
 - § 1.102(d) – to make an application special.
 - § 1.138(c) – to expressly abandon an application to avoid publication.
 - § 1.314 – to withdraw an application from issue.
 - § 1.314 – to defer issuance of a patent

January 6, 2006

Date _____

Signature

Charles Gorenstein

29.271

Typed or printed name

Registration No., if applicable